

CITY OF JERSEY CITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mayor Healy & Council to Introduce Future Site of Marion Greenway Park Port Authority of New York & New Jersey to Contribute \$4 million for 32 Acre Waterfront Park at Former Superfund Site

JERSEY CITY – Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy, members of the **Municipal Council** and the Deputy Executive Director of the **Port Authority of New York and New Jersey** will hold a **2 p.m. press conference on Wednesday, May 6, 2009** at the site of the future Marion Greenway Park, a 32-acre waterfront park, at the foot of Broadway.

Port Authority officials will contribute **\$4 million**, as part of their Hudson- Raritan Estuary Resources Program, which accounts for nearly one third of the acquisition cost for the park property, a former Superfund site.

“We are grateful to the Port Authority for this generous donation that will help to bring a new park to our city’s west side,” said **Mayor Healy**. “Not only will we have hundreds of new jobs in the area from the AMB Warehouse, but we will now have a place where families can recreate, play soccer or take in nature. In an urban area with the density that we have, it is critical for residents to have places like this greenway.”

“The Port Authority's Hudson- Raritan Estuary Resources Program demonstrates our commitment as an environmental steward for the region. We are proud to partner with Jersey City to reclaim the land and create public recreation space and waterfront access,” said Deputy Executive Director Susan Bass Levin.

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The site that will be Jersey City's new **Marion Greenway Park** was once salt marshes and tidal wetlands. Beginning in the 1960s, this area, and the area directly to the west became a landfill where construction debris and municipal waste was dumped and became known as the PJP Landfill, an 87 acre site.

The Marion Greenway will be 32-acre park that will include two (2) soccer fields; an artificial surface soccer drill/practice area; a 1,300 linear foot extension of the Hackensack River Walkway; great open lawn to be available as fair grounds on the water; and a mile jogging/walking path that will surround passive space vegetated with trees and wildflowers.

Remediation will commence next spring and is expected to be completed by the fall. The City will acquire the property for the park for \$12.4 million, which will be paid over three years, enabling the City to obtain most of the acquisition funds from grants like the one from the Port Authority.

In 2007, the AMB Company acquired the 55 acres owned by the Archdiocese of Newark in order to construct a high cube warehouse that will bring more than 300 permanent jobs to Jersey City. In addition to a 900,000 square foot warehouse, AMB will also be providing five (5) acres of green space adjacent to the Hackensack River and will construct a portion of the Hackensack River Walkway. The open space and walkway to be provided by AMB will create a seamless green space with the Marion Greenway.

All media inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Morrill, Press Secretary to Mayor Jerramiah T. Healy at 201-547-4836 or 201-376-0699.

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